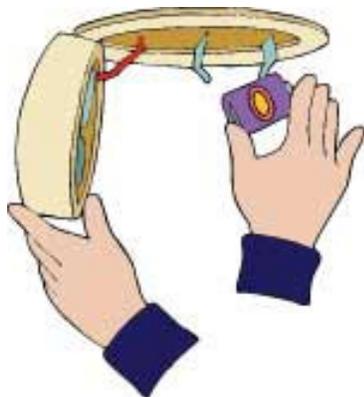




Preschool Newsletter
Preschool Webpage

October 19, 2006

Fire Prevention Week (October 8-14) was highlighted at FSH by a visit from the Oakmont Fire Department. These four volunteer firefighters talked about the many steps we take to keep ourselves safe at school; children were encouraged to ask their parents about replacing batteries in smoke detectors at home.



Important Dates

October 27
Friday
Parent/Teacher Conferences
PUPIL HOLIDAY

October 31
Tuesday
Halloween Parade
8:30am

November 22
Wednesday
Grandfriends Day
Thanksgiving Holiday Begins

November 27
Monday
School Resumes

December 5 & 6
Tues. & Wed.
Holiday Gift Sale (PTO)

December 17
Friday
All-School Coffee
10:00am
Holiday Meeting for Worship
11:00am

Winter Holiday Begins
11:45am Preschool

January 2
Tuesday
School Resumes

Connecting wooden track so that the toy trains could circle around a preschool inspired zoo, turned into an exploration of straight and curved lines. The problem solving sounded something like this: I want it to go around. I want a circle. What could we do? Look at these lines. Feel the edge. Curved or straight? Why does it go that way? Let's try this! Turn it the other way. We did it! Where are the trains?!



On Friday preschoolers sliced cheese, buttered bread, and built sandwiches. Teachers grilled these creations and we all enjoyed some comfort food on our first really cold morning of the season.

Children could choose to have either a triangle or a rectangle of grilled cheese. YUM!



Wish List Items:

Used and defunct rotary and cell phones for the housekeeping area.



Happy birthday to
Tr. Jennifer who
celebrated her birthday
October 15!



When you are on a hunt for something with preschoolers, it is always good to be open to other possibilities for discovery. As the group was out hunting for autumn leaves Monday morning, they came across some unexpected sights.



The first was the sliver of moon that was high up in the sky right above our heads at 8:45am. We broke into song – you can hear Mr. Moon on the preschool music page. Another discovery was “Bob Dog” who was patiently waiting for his driver’s return. These serendipitous finds were memorable highlights of our hunt for autumn leaves!

**Preschool
Homework for
October 19
(optional)**

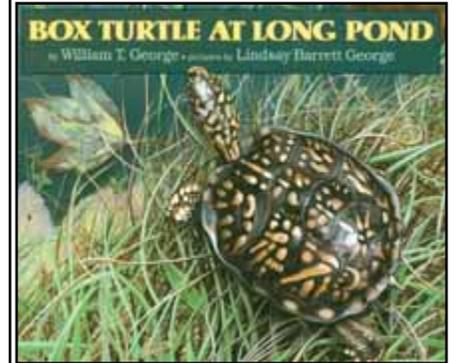


Collect colorful leaves and send them into school Thursday morning for a time-honored tradition. (Hint: it requires colorful fall leaves, waxed paper, and a hot iron.)



Books we have read recently include:

- Box Turtle at Long Pond*, William George
- Being Friends*, Karen Beaumont
- Pumpkin Circle*, George Levinson
- Can't You Sleep Little Bear?*, Martin Waddell

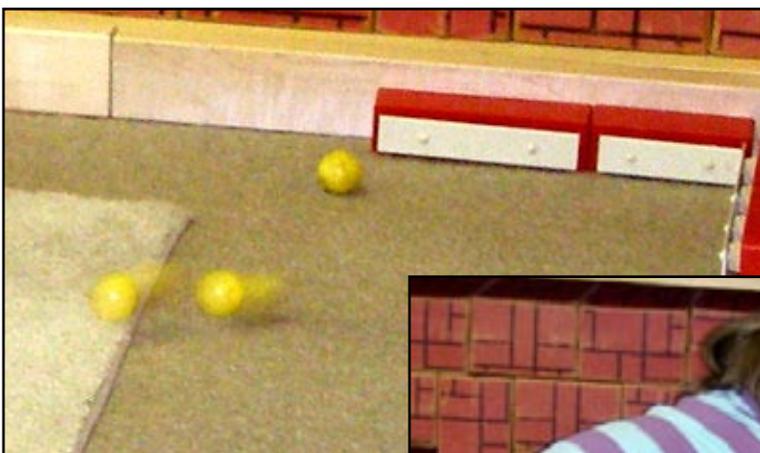
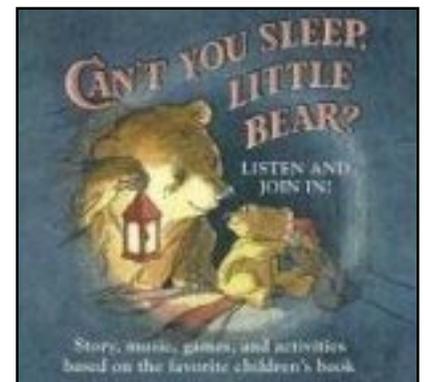
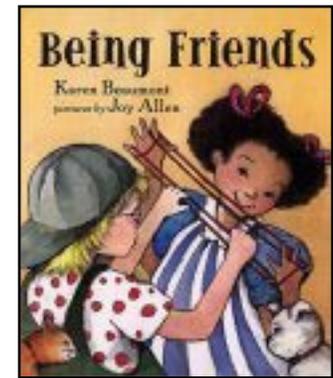


Preschool Integrated Curriculum:

Math (ordinals, sequencing), physics (gravity, resistance), music (harmonic chord), and social studies (working together as a group)

Standing in line! Sounds simple right? Well for preschoolers it's a new skill. They practice it in the grocery store, at the top of the sliding board, in the classroom waiting their turn to play the keyboard or use the bathroom. Who is first, second, third, fourth, fifth in the line? Tessa is behind Kyle. Emily is in front of Ainsley. Kyle rang the first chime. Sofia rang the third chime. James is last in line.

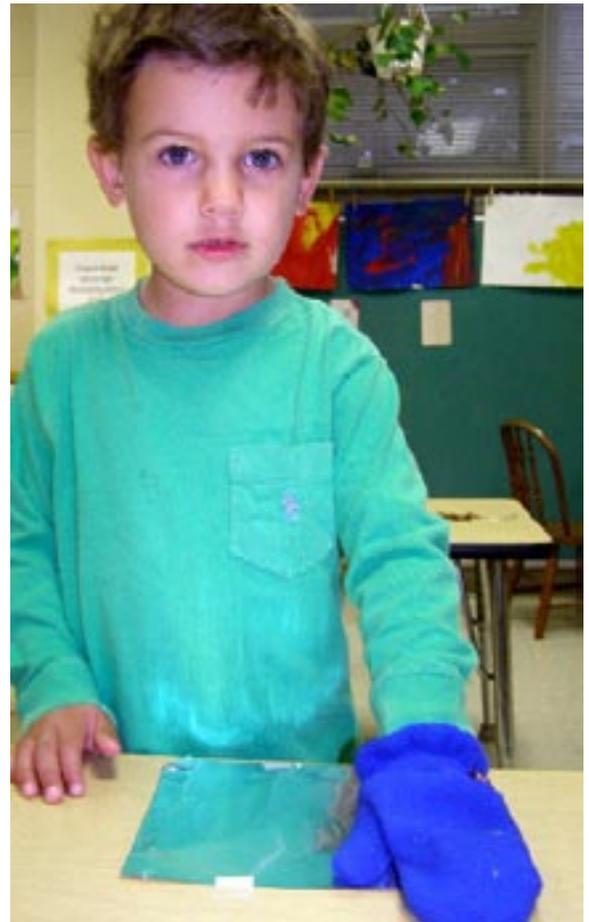
Here the children wait their turn to ring the C Major chimes that have been placed at the bottom near the base of the declined tube. As the wooden balls are sent careening down the tube they ricochet off of the four tones of the metallophone (c, e, g, c). It creates a lovely sound, not unlike the chirpy sounds heard at a casino! As each child finishes sending the balls down the tube, (s)he collects them, presents them to the next person waiting in line, and returns to the end of the line to wait for a next turn.



Q. Why are Cole and Susanna wearing mittens in the classroom?



A. Check out the tin foil on the table. What is hiding beneath the foil? As Cole and Susanna rubbed the surface with a mittened hand, each discovered a leaf collected during Monday's leaf hunt. The clear outline of the leaf's shape and texture of the leaf emerged as the children rubbed the shiny surface of the foil. A leaf *relief!*



Another technique to capture the image of a leaf included placing a page of paper over the leaf and rubbing the surface of the paper with a crayon. The perfect image of a leaf appears.

(Hint: For both activities, tape the leaf to the table before taping the tin foil or paper over the leaf.)

Speaking of mittens...

This past week we experienced some very chilly mornings on the playground. Although the forecast highs might be considered mild, they do not occur until the afternoon.

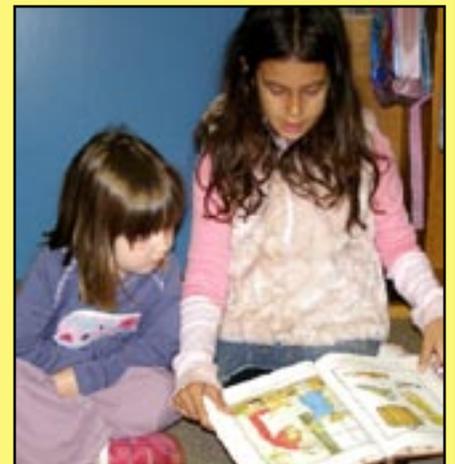
Morning temperatures can be in the 30's and 40's this time of year.

Please place a simple pair of mittens in your child's backpack for possible use each day. It is better to have them and not use them, than to be caught without them on these very chilly mornings.

Partners:

You will notice from this week's partner pictures that the tension and worry is slowly beginning to melt away. Several

partners were overheard laughing together and the room was filled with a friendly din.



Picture Day was everything we could have wanted and more!

Children wide-eyed and primed, sporting fancy shoes and new hair cuts!

The morning was complete with seven adults giving directions, eighteen excited three and four year olds, and, just for good measure, standing on chairs!



Picture Day (as taken by Mrs. Doyle)



You've heard of the "preschool peapod" technique for placing and gathering lily pads on the floor. Well after someone asked "What's a peapod?" we just had to oblige. So on Wednesday we snacked on peas in the pod. Some of us bit right into the pods. Others preferred to snap one open and scoop out the individual peas.

